

TASS denies joint moves with U.S.

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet news agency TASS has denied that the Soviet Union was cooperating with the United States in moves towards getting Syrian forces out of Lebanon. "It is alleged in Washington that the United States is working with the Soviet Union to secure the withdrawal of Syrian troops from Lebanon. These allegations are downright misinformation," TASS said Thursday. The denial apparently referred to comments by a State Department official this week that the U.S. and Soviet Union had been discussing the situation in Lebanon. Syria is Moscow's closest ally in the Middle East and has received full Soviet backing for its refusal to consider pulling its forces out of Lebanon until all Israeli troops have left.



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Israeli reported captured in Lebanon

BEIRUT (R) — The Palestinian news agency WAFA said an Israeli soldier was captured by guerrillas who killed three of his comrades in Lebanon Friday but the Israeli army denied the report. WAFA, in a dispatch from Nicosia, said "the Lebanese fighters captured an Israeli soldier during the attack." But an Israeli military spokesman outside Beirut told Reuters the report was unfounded.

Israeli majority opposes 'concessions'

TEL AVIV (R) — Half the Israeli public opposes giving up any part of the Israeli-occupied West Bank in future negotiations with the Arabs, according to an opinion poll published Friday. The survey, in the Jerusalem Post, reported 49.9 per cent did not want any territory to be given up in exchange for a peace treaty with Jordan. Another 35.6 per cent said some land should be relinquished while 10.3 per cent favoured giving up all the West Bank under a peace treaty. The remaining 4.2 per cent were undecided.

Boeing gets contract for Saudi AWACS

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. Air Force has awarded a \$640 million contract to Boeing to complete the contracts for the five AWACS radar planes and six tankers to be sold to Saudi Arabia, the Pentagon said Thursday. The first contract for \$102 million for the Airborne Warning and Control System planes and the tankers was awarded in 1981, following congressional approval of the controversial sales, which were strenuously opposed by Israel. Later air force contracts brought to \$1.25 billion the amount of money for the 11 planes and associated equipment. The entire sale to Saudi Arabia, which also included advanced heat-seeking missiles, fuel tanks to extend the range of Saudi F-15 fighters, and ground-air control systems, totalled \$8.5 billion.

Bomb kills PLO official in Baalbek

BEIRUT (R) — A Palestinian official was killed early Friday and seven other people, including children, were wounded in a bomb explosion in the eastern Lebanese town of Baalbek, state-run Beirut Radio reported. It said the official belonged to the pro-Syrian Popular Struggle Front (PSF), one of the smallest of the eight guerrilla groups in the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

U.N. mission arrives in Cairo

CAIRO (R) — A three-man U.N. special committee on Israeli practices in occupied Arab territories arrived in Cairo Thursday at the Egyptian government's request to investigate complaints of 5,500 Palestinian refugees living in a camp in Sinai. A spokesman for the committee said the Palestinians living in "Canada Camp", a complex of dwellings located some 60 kilometres east of the Sinai coastal town of Al Arish, said they were denied the right to return to their homeland in Gaza Strip. The spokesman said Egypt informed the committee that Israel had also denied them the right to visit their relatives.

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Thatcher victory exhilarates West

LONDON (R) — Conservative world leaders Friday hailed Margaret Thatcher's victory in the British elections as a boost for the Western alliance and European unity.

Britain's Labour opposition, suffering its worst electoral defeat in half a century, won little sympathy from its political allies abroad who put its defeat down to internal feuding over nuclear weapons and the European Community.

There was widespread criticism throughout the world for Britain's first-post-the-post electoral system that allowed the Con-

servatives to gain a landslide with less than half the popular vote but failed to reflect growing support for the Social Democratic-Liberal Alliance.

NATO allies expressed relief that Mrs. Thatcher, with her strong commitment to maintaining Britain's nuclear role, had succeeded in defeating a Labour Party pledged to unilateral disarmament.

NATO Secretary-General Joseph Luns told a press conference in Paris: "It cannot be denied that the continuation of Mrs. Thatcher at the head of the British gov-

ernment will ensure that the strong support for the alliance which her government has given will continue in all aspects of the alliance."

U.S. administration officials said they were overjoyed by the resounding triumph of Mrs. Thatcher, who they consider perhaps their strongest supporter in the Atlantic alliance.

Officials said the victory, which President Reagan described in a telephone call to Mrs. Thatcher as impressive, would enable her to continue conservative policies and support for U.S. arms policy.

Saharan conflict returns to haunt OAU

ADDIS ABABA (R) — For the first time in two divisive years, African leaders sat down together Friday to discuss the Western Sahara with none of the boycotts and walkouts over the issue that almost wrecked their Organisation of African Unity (OAU).

OAU spokesman Peter Onu told reporters that while there were differences over the issue, the debate at an OAU summit here was held in an atmosphere of "serenity and a desire to find a solution to this problem."

Controversy over the Moroccan-ruled Western Sahara has paralysed OAU business for 15 months and threatened to

cause the third collapse of the OAU's 19th summit meeting.

The summit only went ahead in Addis Ababa after Polisario guerrillas fighting for the territory should be confined to their barracks.

Mr. Onu said some countries were now pressing Morocco to withdraw its troops and local administration altogether, something Morocco has hitherto refused to do.

He said there were two schools of thought on how to proceed with the poll and a committee comprising Senegal, Mauritania and Ethiopia would meet to draft a resolution "acceptable to both tendencies."

Thatcher gains record majority

LONDON (R) — The final result in Britain's general election Friday gave Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservative Party a parliamentary majority of 144.

The 650th result came after five recounts in Hyndburn, a working-class northwest constituency that had elected the Labour Party since World War II. On Friday it elected a Conservative who beat Labour by 19,405 votes to 19,384, a margin of 21 votes and the election's closest result.

The final national tally was: Conservatives 397 seats, Labour 209, Liberal-Social Democratic Alliance 23, others 21.

Mrs. Thatcher's majority is the biggest since 1945, when Labour under Clement Attlee gained a margin of 146.

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Hit-and-run attacks claim 3 more Israelis in Sidon

TEL AVIV (R) — Three Israeli soldiers were killed when an Israeli patrol was ambushed near the South Lebanese town of Tyre Friday, the army said.

It blamed the killings on "a group of terrorists" who opened fire with small arms and rocket-propelled grenades.

The army announcement said

Israeli troops pursued the attackers near the village of Deir Qanoun. It did not say whether any were caught.

Earlier reports from Lebanon said that after the attack the Israeli army closed the main Mediterranean coast road and detained at least 25 people.

Local residents said they heard a series of explosions followed by bursts of automatic rifle fire near the village, a few kilometres inland from the coastal town of Tyre.

Israeli troops sealed off the area and detained at least 25 people.

They used a rocket-propelled grenade to blow up a suspicious car parked near the scene, according to state-run Beirut Radio.

Radios stations reported intensified military activity along roads used by the Israelis on the outskirts of Beirut while reconnaissance planes flew over South Lebanon as well as the Bekaa Valley where Israeli and Syrian troops face each other.

encourage drivers to turn back to Sidon, residents said.

They also cut the road south from Tyre to the Israeli border but later reopened it, the residents added.

Israeli fighter planes later made several flights over Sidon and the inland market town of Nabatiyah.

The residents said.

Early Thursday, two rockets landed near Israeli positions just south of Beirut. No casualties were reported but the Israelis launched a sweep of the area.

In Beirut, Israeli armoured patrols were out in force around the area where three of their men were killed by a huge car bomb blast Wednesday.

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Sharon demands inquiry into Lebanon invasion

TEL AVIV (R) — Former Defense Minister Ariel Sharon, accused of misleading the cabinet during Israel's invasion of Lebanon, Friday called for a judicial inquiry to clear his name.

His call brought the hawkish minister into conflict with the government which has been resisting opposition demands for an inquiry into how the Lebanon war was conducted.

Mr. Sharon, who is now minister without portfolio, issued the statement on his return from a Jewish fund raising visit to the United States.

He told reporters an inquiry would be "a wonderful opportunity to show the government conducted the war in such a manner that almost all major and certainly all major decisions were taken by the government as a whole."

Since the early days of last June's invasion there have been persistent reports that the cabinet was sometimes informed of major military steps only after they were taken.

Pressure for a judicial inquiry mounted this week when Deputy

Premier Simcha Ehrlich spoke of unacceptable and intolerable irregularities in the way cabinet decisions were carried out on the battlefield.

The Knesset (parliament) is to debate next week an opposition Labour Party motion to set up an inquiry. Prime Minister Menachem Begin's coalition is opposing the move.

Mr. Sharon has frequently attacked Labour for hamming morale and declined to say Friday whether he would vote for their motion.

He said an inquiry should "also investigate the behaviour of opposition leaders and other groups who tend to weaken our ability to stand up for our rights."

Israel's last judicial inquiry resulted in Mr. Sharon losing his defense portfolio because of his role in the Beirut massacre of Palestinian refugees last September.

Asked about recent tensions between Israel and Syria, Mr. Sharon said neither Syria nor the Soviet Union wanted all-out war.

"They favour a limited war of attrition against Israel in order to cause us casualties."

NATO calls on Moscow for arms control moves

PARIS (R) — North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) alliance, in a final challenge to Moscow, warned Friday that new U.S. missiles will be installed in Western Europe in six months if arms negotiations remain deadlocked.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said the West was resolved to go ahead with the basing plan unless concrete results could be achieved in U.S.-Soviet talks in Geneva.

"We see a very clear dete-

mination on the part of the alliance and particularly the governments involved to carry through that plan, and I would say at this point there is absolutely no question about it," he said.

Mr. Shultz spoke at a news conference in Paris shortly after foreign ministers of the 16-nation alliance reaffirmed a dual-track decision—involve both negotiations and the threat of new missiles—originally taken 3½ years ago.

A word of thanks and gratitude to Her Majesty Queen Noor from the Board of Trustees of the Arab College

It gives me great honour to express to Your Majesty the thanks and appreciation of the Board of Trustees of the Arab College for your kind gesture in patronising the graduation ceremony of the seventh class of its students.

Your kind gesture of presenting the certificates was greatly appreciated by the Board of Trustees, the parents of the graduates, the college board and students. The presence of Your Majesty at the graduation ceremony was a source of happiness and pride for us and was a manifestation of the bountiful march of Al El Bayt led by our beloved King Hussein ibn Talal.

May God protect you as an asset to our beloved Jordan and to the cause of education. With and through Hussein, we will move ahead. We have loved him and proclaim him as our leader.

**Chairman of the Board of Trustees
Mohammad Nazzal Al 'Armuti**

FEATURES

China's Qin Tomb boosts tourism in Xian

By Roger Crabb
Reuter

JIAN, China — Once the starting point for the fabled silk road across Asia, Xian is again thronged with travellers -- but now they are tourists pressing to see the city's unrivalled historical treasures.

The rush is causing major headaches for Xian's tourist authorities, who have had to embark on a crash hotel-building programme, buy fleets of Japanese cars and buses and hurriedly train large numbers of tour guides.

The city, 1,165 kilometre southwest of Peking was closed to foreigners until 1978 when some 5,000 trail-blazers were allowed in to admire the Tang Dynasty pagodas, the temples and the museums.

Then in October 1979 came the event which put Xian firmly on the tourist map -- the opening to the public of the excavated tomb of Qin Shi Huang Di, the emperor buried 23 centuries ago with a guard of 6,000 life-size Terracotta warriors.

Discovered in 1974 by peasants digging in a field close in the burial mound of the emperor, the sheer size of the find dazzled archaeologists who put it on a par with the seven wonders of the ancient world.

Now a huge perspex-roof covers the pit where stand the serried ranks of warriors, each individually sculpted, looking for all the world as if they are about to march out in battle.

The fame of the site spread like bush fire. From 21,000 foreign visitors in 1979, the figure rose almost fourfold to 81,000 in 1982 and is expected to increase by another 60 per cent this year.

In March alone more than 10,000 passed through the city, most of them on package tours from the United States, Japan and Western Europe.

The Qin Tomb has put Xian at the top of every tourist's list along with the Great Wall and Peking's forbidden city.

In addition as Chang'an, the city was the imperial capital through 11 dynasties beginning 1,100 years before Christ and is an archaeologist's dream.

Until last year however, it hosted only one hotel -- a grim Soviet-style edifice with antiquated plumbing.

Last year the tourist authorities opened two comfortable modern guest houses, one styled after a Tang dynasty palace, to raise the number of first class rooms in the city to 2,000.

Two others are almost complete and an international banking consortium signed a \$10-million loan agreement for the construction of another 600-room hotel.

It was the first joint venture hotel deal to be struck in Xian but foreign bankers do not expect it to be the last.

As tourist officials told Reuters: "We just don't have anywhere near enough rooms to meet the demand and it's growing all the time."

There are other problems, as the Xian manager of the China International Travel Service, Yin Shaozu, explained.

"Many of the tourist attractions like the Qin Tomb are in the countryside some distance from Xian, yet before 1978 we had virtually no reliable vehicles to transport the visitors.

"Now we have 80 Japanese buses and 70 cars but still we need more," Yin said.

He said keeping track of the thousands of reservations was a strain on office staff labouring without a computer, "but we are improving things step by step."

Yin also touched diplomatically on the shortcomings of China's national airline CAAC, which holds the monopoly on internal flights.

"Our reservations system can be thrown out because CAAC is not always on time," he said.

In fact, the ageing British-built Tridents and even older Soviet Antonovs which fly tourists into Xian are often grounded or delayed by bad weather since Xian's airport has no radar.

While the logistical problems are irritating, they do not seem to deter the tourists. One Australian visitor in Xian was definite. "This is the high spot of my time in China."

Because of the complexity of tour charges, Xian's foreign exchange earnings from tourism are difficult to calculate. But since 1978, when the country's pragmatic leadership under Deng Xiaoping decided to open up China to foreign visitors, tourism revenues in the country as a whole

have soared.

According to official figures, China earned \$840 million from tourism last year compared with \$260 million in 1979, the first full year of the open door policy. Another hefty increase is forecast for this year.

The authorities in Shaanxi province, of which Xian is the capital, are striving to open more of region's incomparable historical sites to an avid international public.

One new attraction due to open later this year is an exhibition hall housing the bronze chariots recently unearthed nearby.

But even in Xian, China's new tourist Mecca, there are apparently some who are unconvinced of the need to preserve their cultural heritage.

Earlier last month the central government had to intervene to halt the destruction of a Ming Dynasty gateway in the city walls ordered by Shaanxi authorities to make room for a housing project.

Yin said the 600-year-old edifice would now be restored. He also dismissed suggestions that the incident showed there was hostility to the rapid expansion of tourism.

Alicia to lead 1983 hurricane season

By Stewart Russell
Reuter

MIAMI — Alicia will be first this year, then Barry, Chantal and Dean, following through alphabetically to Van and Wendy if necessary.

The 1983 Atlantic hurricane season officially opened on June 1 amid warnings against the danger of apathy among millions of coastal residents who have been spared the wrath of a major storm for several years.

An average of seven major hurricanes strike the U.S. mainland each decade, said John Byrne, administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

As no heavily populated area has been hit by a killer storm in the 1980s, "time seems to be running out," he said.

Over 40 million people live in hurricane-prone areas along the eastern coast and the Gulf of Mexico.

In southeast Florida alone, 620,000 lives could be threatened.

by a major hurricane, according to a three-year army corps study of evacuation programmes in south Florida.

There would not be enough time to evacuate all those people in the 12 to 16 hour "countdown" period which would begin as soon as forecasters became reasonably certain where the eye of a hurricane would hit land and issued a warning, the corps said.

Officials are concerned by surveys which show a large number of coastal residents would ignore an evacuation order in the mistaken belief that they had already survived a hurricane.

In most cases what they remember as a hurricane was a "near miss" or merely a tropical storm with winds below minimum hurricane strength of 74 miles per hour (120 kph).

If NOAA approves a National Weather Service proposal, forecasters will attempt to predict on a percentage basis the probability of a hurricane striking a certain area up to 72 hours in advance.

Probability forecasts would be issued for 44 locations from Bro-

wasville, Texas, to Eastport, Maine.

NOAA is expected to approve the experiment soon, despite opponents' arguments that probability forecasts would confuse the public and detract from the existing advisory system of issuing a hurricane watch, followed by a warning.

A watch advises residents that a hurricane could strike a particular area and precautions should be taken. A warning means a hurricane is likely to strike.

The perennial problem for civic officials is to decide at what stage between watch and warning to order evacuation.

Officials say 55 major hurricanes have struck the United States during this century. Six thousand people died in the worst one, which virtually destroyed Galveston, Texas, in 1900.

There is no accurate estimate of how many more people were killed in Caribbean Islands during the same period.

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Marka airport to be used for pilgrim, Cairo flight check-ins

AMMAN (Petra) — Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, has decided, in cooperation with the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), to use Amman civil airports as a gathering place for departing group flight passengers.

Passengers for Cairo, pilgrims flights and Jordanian teachers flying to Arab countries on education agreements will be most affected.

After being checked in, the passengers will be transported by Alia tourist buses to the Queen Alia

International Airport from which they will depart. The new arrangement is part of the procedure to regulate the landing and takeoff of airliners at the new airport.

Meanwhile, Queen Alia International Airport Director Mahmoud Balqas met directors of airlines operating from the airport. They discussed the proposals and demands made by these airlines to facilitate their operations and to enable them to render better services to the passengers.

£23.5m Italian loans agreement completed

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian government and Italian government credit bank Wednesday signed here two loan agreements amounting to \$23.5 million.

According to the first agreement, the bank will give Jordan a \$20 million loan to participate in financing the Aqaba thermal power station project. According to the second agreement, the bank will extend to Jordan a \$3.5 million loan to participate in the financing of Khadithah, Al Mazra'ah

and Thir irrigation project.

The second loan is based on the agreement concluded between the two countries on Jan. 14, 1983 according to which the Italian government agreed to give Jordan a \$20 million loan to finance irrigation projects in the southern Jordan Valley.

National Planning Council (NPC) President Hanna Odeh signed the agreements for Jordan and the Italian ambassador in Amman signed on behalf of his country.



Police officers (above and below) attending two separate training courses held by the Police Officers Training Institute Thursday receive their diplomas (Photo Yousef Al 'Alian)

Senior public security training courses end

AMMAN (Petra) — Two public security classes graduated from the Police Officers Training Institute (POTI) Thursday.

The first class, in which 20 officers with the rank of Major and Lieutenant Colonel, including two Qatari officers were enrolled, included lectures on law, education,

cation, social science, public administration and other fields aimed at developing the knowledge of the officers.

The second class, in which 16 officers participated, included lectures and applied work on the handling of riots and sit-ins and ways of preserving law and order.



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Prince Hashem (foreground) celebrates his third birthday in the presence of His Majesty King Hussein and the commander and senior officers of the Prince Hashem battalion (Petra photo)

Commander visits Prince on birthday

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein received at Al Nadwa Palace Thursday the commander of the Prince Hashem battalion and senior officers from the battalion, who extended their congratulations to the King on the third birthday of His Highness Prince Hashem.

The commander and officers presented gifts to the prince on his birthday.

NCC to debate copyright bill

AMMAN (J.T.) — The National Consultative Council (NCC) will discuss Monday a proposal to issue legislation that will guarantee the rights of Jordanian writers.

The proposal came after a number of Jordanians complained that their work had been plagiarised by other authors.

Moreover, there were complaints that some publishing houses are reprinting and publishing works without the prior permission or even knowledge of their writers.

Jerash murderer arrested

AMMAN (J.T.) — Police Wednesday arrested the murderer of Asma' Abdullah Abdul Razzaq Al Attar after four months of investigations. Mr. Al Attar's body was found on Jan. 31, 1983.

The suspect was arrested and subsequently confessed his crime once the murder weapon had been identified as being in his possession.

Mufti inaugurates social centre in Kafr Assad

IRBID (Petra) — Social Development Minister Iman Al Mufti Thursday inaugurated the Kafra Assad charity society social centre, which was established in cooperation with the ministry, the Kafra Assad municipality and the voluntary societies in the city.

The centre was built at a cost of JD 11,000.

Addressing those attending the ceremony, Mrs. Mufti called for cooperation among official and private institutions to implement such charity projects. She also urged women to join the Jordanian women's union and to participate in its social activities.

Mrs. Mufti then donated JD 1,000 to the Kafra Assad charity society.

Afterwards Kafra Assad Mayor Mohammad Azzam made a speech

praising the efforts of the Social Development Ministry and its role in training specialised personnel for work in the social development field.

President of the society Ahmad Al Umari also made a speech pointing out that the society has also opened a children's club, a textile workshop, and a typing centre.

Mrs. Mufti also visited charity societies in four other towns, and inspected the progress of work there. In turn, she donated JD 300 to each society.

At a meeting in the social development department in Irbid, Mrs. Mufti discussed with department employees the activities and projects being carried out by the department in the Irbid Governorate.

Jabiri art show opened

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Highness Princess Alia Thursday opened the exhibition of the painter Ali Al Jabiri at the Jordanian National Museum for Fine Art.

The exhibition, which will last 10 days, includes 81 paintings representing historic and cultural landmarks in the life of Jordan.

For an unusual evening it was equally enjoyable, with prizes for every one, and a fancy dress competition, which featured most of the traditional dresses from India.

For the curious foreigners, it was a pure Indian atmosphere and Miss Sheridan Waugh, a teacher at the International Community School, remarked: "If this is any indication of the Indian atmosphere, I would love to live in India."

It was evident that a lot of time and effort had gone into the organisation of the "Indian cultural evening," which ended with a mouth-watering spread of food which introduced the foreign guests to many of India's delicacies.

"It has nothing to do with me," Mr. Santoshi told the Jordan Times when asked to comment on the motivations behind the programme. "You'd better ask my wife," he said. But to the Jordan Times' regret, Mrs. Manjula Santoshi, who incidentally, is a singer in her own right along with her children, was too busy supervising the evening's administrative details.

However, it was clear that the programme, which ranged from dances from the southwestern state of Kerala staged by six girls in colourful costumes, to sweet melodies from the northeastern West Bengal, had taken its organisational toll.

"It gave us all a chance to be together and have a nice evening, which otherwise would have to be devoted to watching the television," one lady remarked. "We want more of the same," another foreigner commented, and one could easily detect an indirect reference to the "just fantastic" varieties of Indian food.

However, it was clear that the programme, which ranged from dances from the southwestern state of Kerala staged by six girls in colourful costumes, to sweet melodies from the northeastern West Bengal, had taken its organisational toll.

Evidently Mrs. Santoshi was not expecting a very large gathering for a lot of people had to be contented with standing room in the moderately spacious lawn in front of her house.

"You can enjoy more traditional Indian programme soon," Mr. Santoshi said. "We are arranging to have an Indian troupe participate in the Jerash Festival," he explained.

One of the highlights of the evening though was when the ambassador, Pyare Lal Santoshi, himself went on stage to render a heart-touching melody followed by a rhythmic on-the-spot number.

For the children who gathered

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Dr. Badran called for a review of the educational infrastructure in general and higher education in particular, so as to adopt a system capable of stimulating science students to undertake original research and come up with new innovations.

At the end of the ceremony, the prime minister presented degrees to the 1,200 graduates and awards to those students and lecturers who had excelled during the past session.

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JEA extends electricity supply in Tafilah district

TAFILEH (Petra) — Prime Minister Mudar Badran Thursday opened the new project which will bring electricity to seven villages in the Tafilah district. He also inaugurated the operation of two power generators in the Irwin and Al Ayn Al Bayda' villages.

Mr. Badran then listened

Director-General of the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) Hisham Al Khatib give a detailed rundown on the project which has cost around JD 1,700,000. The scheme included the installation of 11 kilowatt high-tension lines which will connect the villages to the national grid.

The project, which will also benefit nine other villages in Shabwak district, included the building of four transformer stations

to supply the Tafilah subscribers with electricity. Thus the number of people receiving electrical supplies will rise to 3,323. The electrification of the Shawbak villages will take place during the next two months, and by 1990 it is hoped that every house in Jordan will have electricity. Mr. Khatib said.

After ending his tour of the Tafilah area, Mr. Badran, accompanied by Industry and Trade Minister and chairman of the Board of Directors of the JEA Walid Asfour, Minister of Municipal, Rural Affairs and the Environment Hassan Al Momani, and Interior Minister Ahmad Obaidi visited the new cement project under construction at Al Rasheediyeh in the south of Jordan.

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Mr. Badran expressed his satisfaction with the progress of work on the project, which is to provide an extra 500 jobs, and said priority in employment at the cement plant would be given to the area's residents.



Prime Minister Mudar Badran is shown around the construction plant at Rasheediyeh which is currently under construction in the south of the country (Petra photo)

Indian evening charms audience

By P.V. Vivekanand
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Thunderous applause, cheers and shouts of "once more" disrupted the calm diplomatic neighbourhood of the Indian ambassador's residence in Jabal Amman, Thursday, when an "Indian cultural evening" was organised by his wife.

Members of the Indian community living in Jordan proved that a lot of talent is located in this country, nearly all of which is simply waiting for the right kind of encouragement and occasion to bring it out.

A multi-faceted programme, including traditional dances like Bharatanayam, harvest dances and folk music, hilarious comedies -- which incidentally were performed in English -- was staged.

One of the highlights of the evening though was when the ambassador, Pyare Lal Santoshi, himself went on stage to render a heart-touching melody followed by a rhythmic on-the-spot number.

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for an unusual evening it was equally enjoyable, with prizes for every one, and a fancy dress competition, which featured most of the traditional dresses from India.

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Question of war

NOT many people perhaps have heard of the story told recently by a British medical doctor and which strongly suggests that the Israeli occupation army in Lebanon is suffering much more casualties than is officially admitted by Israeli military spokesmen. Travelling by car from Beirut to the south last week, the British doctor stopped to aid a group of Israeli soldiers whose troop carrier was just blown up. To her dismay, she was prevented from carrying out her duty, although she could see that at least two soldiers were killed and several more were injured and needed urgent help. The doctor later heard Israel radio announce that only one soldier was hurt from the same landmine explosion that site had just witnessed.

Two days ago, a carbomb exploded next to another Israeli troop carrier in Beirut, killing two or three soldiers and injuring others, according to eyewitnesses who were near the scene; Israel hardly talked about the incident. And yesterday, three Israeli soldiers were killed when their patrol was ambushed near Tyre in southern Lebanon, ending a week of heavy military pressure on the Israeli army.

The point is that, despite stepped up guerrilla attacks against the Israeli army in Lebanon and mounting casualties among Israeli soldiers there, and the big worry that that is generating in Israel, the Begin government is unlikely to order its troops back. What then should the Arabs expect from the Israelis, if Begin is opposed to a unilateral withdrawal, or even a partial one to the Awali River, and he could not tolerate the difficult situation for much longer?

We should ask this question because much of what develops in the next stage of the stand-off in Lebanon will depend on how the Israelis will react to prevent their army's strength from being sapped on daily basis, and their soldiers' lives from being lost at an intolerable rate.

The Israeli news media have lately been reporting that American officials are convinced that the Syrians and the Palestinians will leave Lebanon only under continued Israeli military pressure.

If we do take these reports seriously, and we think Arabs should, would it be wrong to assume that Israel now might be preparing to wage a new war?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Unity of development

THE DEVELOPMENTS taking place in this country under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein are geographically comprehensive and not restricted to one area, thus promoting a unity of development in society. In light of this, Prime Minister Mudar Badran inaugurated a project for the electrification of seven villages in the Tafileh district. The prime minister also made an inspection tour of the cement project in Al Rashadiyah in southern Jordan. A few hours later, the prime minister went to the northern part of the country to attend the graduation ceremony of the fourth class from Yarmouk University.

Thus it can be seen that in just one weekend, progress is taking place throughout the country, including the south and the north, the cities and the villages, with the aim of achieving a better life for the Jordanian people as a whole. This approach stems from the belief that modernisation should include the whole of the country, and consequently raise the standard of living and productivity of all our citizens. Needless to say, this balanced attitude reflects our desire to build a society in which our ideals and values can come to fruition to the benefit of all people; and for that we are rightly proud.

Al Dustour: Unity, our only strategy

ARAB LEADERS have made contacts with each other during the last few weeks with the aim of deciding the appropriate basis for an Arab initiative capable of coping with the current problems facing us all.

Observers expect that such contacts will materialise in an Arab summit at Riyadh. Needless to say, the consultations which our leaders are having are an indication of the seriousness of the present situation and the enormity of the challenges facing the Arab Nation. Furthermore, Arab leaders are convinced that a further lack of Arab solidarity will open the way to more disasters.

Although we are certain that such a summit would be a positive step, we must say that any Arab initiative requires two factors in order to succeed. Firstly, confronting the Zionists is a responsibility all Arabs must accept. This requires that the eastern front be reinstated and the Arab countries comprising this front coordinate their efforts. As long as the situation on this front remains as it is, it will be impossible to build a pan-Arab force capable of being victorious over Israel. If the Arabs remain incapable of this and accept Israel's fait accompli, no Arab state alone will be capable of winning in war or peace against the Zionist enemy.

Secondly, Palestinian national unity will remain a source of strength to the Arabs in general. This unity must be protected and nurtured, for without it rebuilding the eastern front will prove well nigh impossible. Israel of course is hoping that the division amongst the frontline countries will continue. The Arabs then must trump the Zionists' hand by playing the pan-Arab card to good effect.

Sawt Al Shaab: Pan-Arab priorities

THERE ARE reports that Saudi mediation efforts have succeeded in cleansing the Arabs of their divisions thus opening the way for a Riyadh summit. These reports are encouraging as the Arab Nation is in dire need for genuine unity and solidarity. The present political phase in the Arab world is a risky and insecure one, witness the events it is facing place us as states and peoples in southern Lebanon, and in the Gulf area. Priorities on the pan-Arab platform should be given to pan-Arab issues. For there can be no neutrality when it comes to deciding one's future, a danger per se is not neutral, but posed to all the Arab countries.

We in Jordan, as His Majesty King Hussein has said many times, support every effort at unifying Arab ranks and improving our position. We also condone every step which brings us along the path of Arab solidarity. We very much hope that other Arab countries will follow this example and make the unity of the Arab Nation all over top priority. We hope that others will learn from their mistakes of the past and give pan-Arab interests a preference over regional interests so that we could all face the common enemy united.

The West Bank question remains unsolved

By Anthony Lewis

BOSTON — A year ago, Israeli forces entered Lebanon. Now, various analyses are giving their estimates of what Israel gained and lost in its longest war. But the accounts commonly leave out what should be a critical element in the cost-benefit analysis: The fact that Prime Minister Menachem Begin had a hidden agenda in the war.

The fighting was in Lebanon, but for Mr. Begin the issue was largely the West Bank. The pretext of trying to clear a security zone in southern Lebanon was put aside after a week, and Israel set out to destroy the PLO as an organised force. That achieved, it was reckoned, Palestinian nationalism in the West Bank would be numbed, and Israel left free to acc-

elerate the building of settlements and consolidate its hold on the territory.

The war did not destroy Palestinian nationalism, but it has turned out to achieve Mr. Begin's end by other means. He gained time to continue building Israeli towns in the West Bank; so much time that the goal of making the territory a de facto part of Israel now looks to be within his grasp.

The political realities point that way. Right now the diplomatic attention of the region and of the United States is focused wholly on Lebanon. Can Syria be persuaded to negotiate a withdrawal agreement like the one already signed by Israel and Lebanon? Is there an imminent threat of war between Syria and Israel? Those are the urgent questions.

In the circumstances, no one

can be expected to think seriously about new ways to arrange a negotiation over the future of the West Bank — if there is a way after the rejection of the Reagan plan by Israel, the PLO and Jordan. And, meanwhile, the clock is running. Before long the American election campaign will be under way, and no serious business on the Middle East can be done.

If there is going to be another chance for a West Bank negotiation, in short, it will not be until the beginning of 1985. By then, will there be anything left to negotiate about? Not if Mr. Begin's government continues on its present course — and there is every reason to believe it will. It is diverting all possible funds, foreign and domestic, to build in the West Bank.

If the war in Lebanon has significantly advanced the Begin policy of incorporating the West Bank into Israel, as I believe, then it is necessary to consider the consequences. For those consequences are going to be profound.

There are about 1.3 million Palestinians living in the West Bank and Gaza. Their families have been there for generations, some for a millennium. What will be their status in a Greater Israel?

One possibility is for Israel to offer citizenship to the people of the territories. Mr. Begin has spoken of that option. But this would utterly transform the character of Israel.

A second course would be to press the Arabs to leave the West Bank. Ariel Sharon has not dis-

guised his wish that many would go, and he is not alone. The deputy speaker of the Knesset, Menachem Cohen, said March 16 that after occupying the West Bank in 1967, Israel "had the means to make sure that 200,000 or 300,000 would move" across the Jordan River and should have done so. But after all the horrors of Jewish history, could a majority of Israelis endorse such a solution?

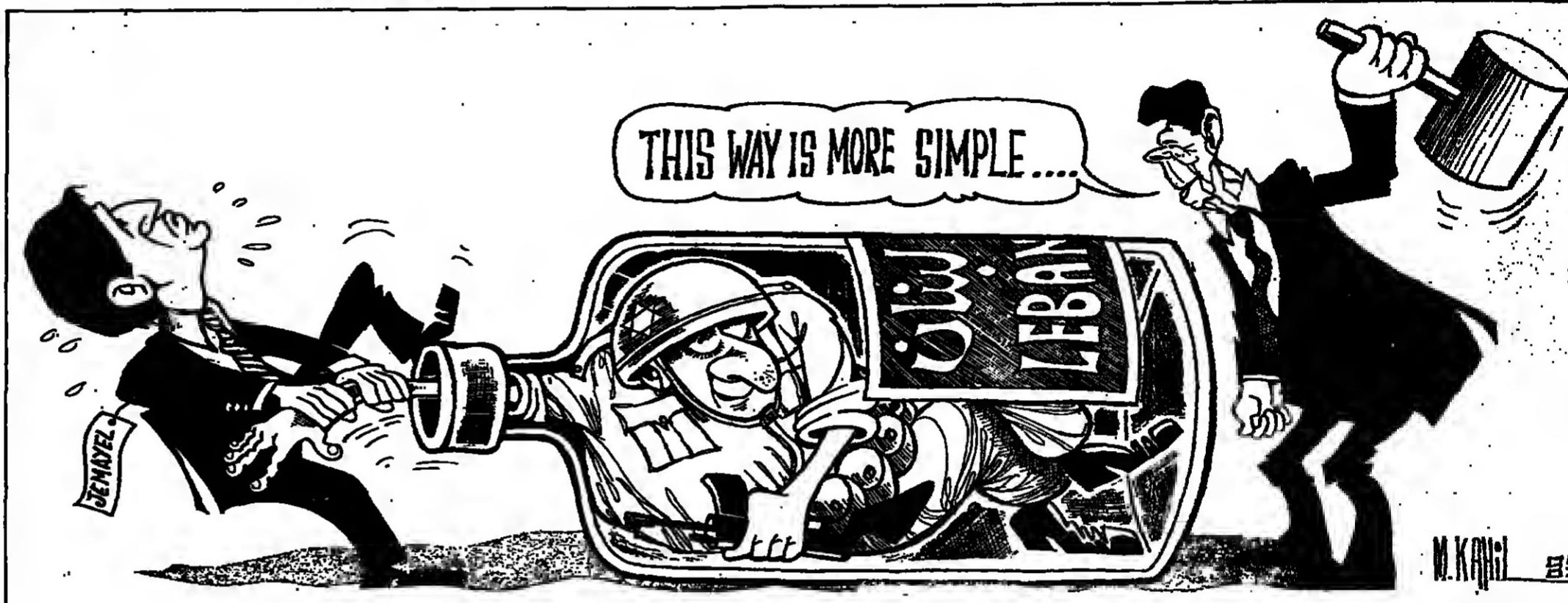
Third, Israel could allow the Arabs to remain in the territories, and work in the Israeli economy, but without the legal or political rights of Israeli citizenship. This course is sometimes called the South African option, because it evokes white South Africa's policy of excluding the black majority from the political system. But to draw that analogy is to indicate that this solution, too, raises pro-

blems of conscience.

Those are the alternatives, and none is happy. When I spoke of them recently to a group warmly supportive of Israel, I was urged not just to raise the difficulties but to suggest answers. But there are some problems in the world that have no ready solutions. And how a Greater Israel would deal with its Arab population is one of them.

Even before the absorption of the West Bank quite reaches the point of no return, the consequences are visible — consequences, above all, for the spirit of Israel. The need to repress a rival nationalism within a territory where its adherents are numerous always imposes a strain on the dominant power. Just think of Ulster.

... The New York Times



Kashmir still blocking Indo-Pak ties

By Jeremy Clift
 Reuter

NEW DELHI — The Himalayan state of Kashmir, which voted in state elections on Sunday, is still a major stumbling block in the way of improving relations between India and Pakistan.

The two neighbours, who have fought three wars in the past 35 years, two of them over Kashmir, held talks in Islamabad on ways of fostering links, including proposals for a non-aggression pact, and a friendship treaty.

Discussions on the accords have made little headway since they started in January last year.

Lingering suspicion between the two former enemies based on the festering problem of Kashmir continues to cause controversy.

On a trip to Nepal last month, Pakistani President Zia-Ul-Haq said

the issue was the key to improving Indo-Pakistani ties.

Indian doubts over Pakistani intentions have been strengthened by Islamabad's recent purchases of sophisticated U.S. weapons, including F-16 strike aircraft.

And the formal opening of a mountain pass across the Karakoram Peaks linking the Pakistani-held section of Kashmir with China has caused unease in New Delhi.

Campaigning in Kashmir, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi charged that while the Pakistani government was talking of normalising relations, it was simultaneously fueling an arms race on the subcontinent by buying large quantities of weapons.

Superpower interest in the strategic state lies close to the intersection of five frontiers — Afghanistan, the Soviet Union,

China, India and Pakistan — was underlined last month visiting Soviet First Deputy Premier Ivan Arhipov changed his scheduled programme in India to make a trip to Kashmir.

The state of Jammu and Kas-

mir dates back to 1846 when the British established a vaguely defined princely state to act as a buffer between the Raj and Russia and China to the north.

The Vale of Kashmir, a beautiful valley of lakes and popular trees capped amid snow-capped mountains, has long been a summer refuge from the heat and dust of the Ganges plain.

At the time of partition in 1947, Kashmir with its predominantly Muslim population logically should have gone to Pakistan, a state formed for the subcontinent's Muslims.

Hari Singh, the Hindu Mah-

raja, wanted to stay independent. But, faced with a revolt in the West and the intervention of Pathan tribesmen from Pakistan, he signed an instrument of accession to India in return for Indian military help.

Fighting between India and Pakistan dragged on to 1948. Under a United Nations ceasefire agreement between the two sides, signed in 1949, a third of the territory remained in Pakistani hands.

Two more wars in 1965 and 1971 left the arrangement virtually unaltered, with Pakistan administering 83,806 sq. kilometres in the north and west.

The remaining 138,992 kilometres is under Indian control.

As India's only state with a Muslim majority, Kashmir has a special place in the Indian union. This has been recognised under article 370 of the Indian constitution which grants the state of some six

million people a high degree of autonomy.

Its special status was vigorously defined by Sheikh Mohammad Ali Jinnah, who founded Pakistan and received some support from behind prison bars.

The Lion, a champion of secularism, died in September last year. His son Farouq Abdullah was trying to confirm his position as the new chief minister of the sensitive frontier state in Sunday's elections.

But he faced a strong challenge from Gandhi's Congress (T) Party.

The sheikh's son is sure of support in the value of Kashmir, which is largely Muslim and the heartland of his ruling National Conference Party.

But political analysts say his position is less secure in the low-lying Jammu region where there is a big Hindu population.

Seoul sees a strong threat in North Korea

By Granville Watts
 Reuter

SEOUL — Across Korea's incongruously named Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), one million men confront each other in one of the biggest concentrations of armed forces.

The huge military presence is one of the most enduring reminders of the bitter conflict that tore the Asian peninsula 30 years ago.

The North Korean economy was shattered by the three-year war.

But, despite difficulties, Pyongyang has rebuilt and modernised its forces, which remain massed on the ceasefire line just 25 miles (40 kilometres) north of the South Korean capital of Seoul.

Facing them are well-armed South Korean forces backed by 40,000 U.S. troops.

Although outnumbered about two to one, the South Korean and American forces have vastly greater fire power and this is believed to have acted as a deterrent to North Korean attack.

Two-thirds of North Korea's

700,000-strong army, the world's sixth largest, is believed to be lined up against the south.

Defectors say the troops are on constant alert in trenches and underground bunkers and are continuously tunnelling.

Three tunnels have so far been discovered by the South Koreans, one 37 metres (120 feet) deep and 1,635 metres (5,365 feet) long, which had been blasted through solid rock under the DMZ.

It was found in 1978 when a

South Korean guard noticed steam rising from the ground.

The North Koreans have also launched armed raids in recent years including an assassination squad aimed at former President Park Chung-Hee which got within a few hundred metres (yards) of the Blue House presidential palace in January 1968 before being challenged.

A statue of the South Korean

policemen who noticed the killers had Northern accents, although dressed in South Korean uniforms, now stands in a prominent spot near the heavily guarded palace, named after its blue roof tiles.

The North Koreans have developed the largest commando force in the world — 100,000 elite troops whose wartime mission

would be to penetrate South Korean lines and operate against vital

installations in the rear.

The North's armour, including Soviet-designed T-62 tanks, is rated superior to that of the South.

A worrying point for the South is that the Northern forces also have Soviet-built FRG ground-to-ground missiles capable of reaching Seoul and beyond from silos in the north and west.

Experts say the FRGs, known as Frogs, would be an excellent weapon against Seoul and other massed population areas and are a cause of "serious concern".

The North Korean air force is less impressive. Most Northern fighters are outdated Mig 15, 17 and 19 models whereas an impressive U.S. line-up includes the F-16 fighter-bomber.

He reminded Washington that the U.S. was not the only country with nuclear weapons — an apparent reference to North Korea's Soviet and Chinese allies.

Western diplomats here are less sure of Soviet intentions but feel Peking would not want to get involved again in fighting on the Korean peninsula.

It was Chinese intervention in the Korean war which almost swung the balance against United Nations' forces.

The South Korean view is that North Korean leader Kim Il-Sung, who has ruled the North since 1948, learned a costly lesson in the war which ended with a ceasefire in 1953.

Kim, 71, is regarded as more predictable than his son Jong-Il, who is being groomed as his apparent successor. South Koreans fear the 41-year-old son is more brash than his father and may prove to be more dangerous for the South in the long term.

When he swept back in 1980, he said that would be his last term.

Today, the man who has been in power as long as the last five U.S. presidents is not saying when he will go.

Now, with the Canadian economy showing signs of following the United States into a solid recovery, the gloom of recession could be dispelled.

Then if Clark emerges battered but barely triumphant from the leadership "ballyhoo," Trudeau might be tempted to run again.

Canada's Conservatives seek to end Trudeau's hold on power

By Paul Majendie
 Reuter

OTTAWA — Canada's opposition Conservatives pick a new leader this week and, if the opinion polls are right, he will be the man to lead the party out of the political wilderness and back to power.

Dutch prepare to face harder times ahead

By Walter Ellis

AMSTERDAM — For years the Netherlands has managed to exude an aura of solid prosperity and social well-being. In almost equal measure, but today that image is suffering a severe economic jolt.

Unemployment is running at a rate of 15 per cent, and in an attempt to restrain the budget deficit, the centre-right government has been forced to introduce major cuts in social services — a process which has produced sharp divisions in the ruling coalition of Christian Democrats and Liberals.

Central to the country's economic difficulties is a dramatic slump in sales of natural gas from the huge Dutch offshore fields because of international recession and energy conservation.

The respected NRC Handelsblad has even described the country as the "new sick man of Europe."

But first the good news. Inflation is extremely low — just over 3 per cent — and is set to drop to 2 per cent by December. The guilder is strong, and interest rates, though under some pressure, are sharply down on 1982 levels and the surplus on the current account of the balance of payments this year is expected to be around fl 10 billion (\$3.6 billion).

Mr. Ruud Lubbers, who leads the current centre-right coalition of Christian Democrats and Liberals, told an eager audience of building contractors recently that industrial output in the Netherlands this year would stabilise

and that the level of investments would rise slightly. He also saw interest rates resuming their downward trend as inflation dropped.

The Netherlands, he said, required the benefits of a general world recovery if its position was to improve this year, but the bottom point in the recession had at least very nearly been reached.

Recovery in 1984

Mr. Willem Duisenberg, governor of the Dutch central bank, has also warned recently that the Dutch cannot expect their position to improve without an overall international upturn.

He forecast that the recovery would start in the Netherlands in 1984 and felt that if the government stuck to its policies, the country would be able to embark on recovery from a "not unfavourable position."

The bad news is that unemployment is currently running at nearly 15 per cent, according to EEC calculations, and at 16.5 per cent by Dutch evaluation. The dole queues are, moreover, lengthening at a faster rate than anywhere else in the EEC, and young people are the worst affected of all. Fully 35 per cent of the labour force under the age of 25 are unable to find work, compared with 28 per cent in Britain and 15 per cent in West Germany.

Central to the government's dilemma is the dramatic slump in sales of Dutch natural gas. The volume traded last year fell by 12 per cent to a 10-year low of 70.8 billion cubic metres, and there is very little chance of any improvement in 1983. Gas, first discovered in large quantities in the

savings in the state budget this year so far of no less than fl 15 billion (\$5.4 billion).

Even so, the budget deficit continues to rise and the present prospect is for a shortfall equivalent to 12.5 per cent of national income.

On the industrial front, bankruptcies remain at all-time record levels. Some 8,000 companies went out of business last year and a larger number is expected to go bust in 1983. A majority of those surviving, traditionally used to heavy levels of re-investment from profits, have had to cut back substantially on the purchase of new plant and equipment.

Lagging economic growth

Economic growth this year, according to Mr. Duisenberg, will be between 0 and 0.5 per cent, against 2-3 per cent for West Germany, 2 per cent for France and the U.K., and 4 per cent for the U.S. He blames lagging growth on the relatively poor equity position of Dutch trade and industry and pointed out that balance sheet ratios had deteriorated in the Netherlands more than elsewhere.

Yet both Mr. Lubbers and Mr. Duisenberg believe that a recovery is in the cards. Neither, however, doubts the magnitude of the task ahead.

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1950s, has been a mainstay of government revenue for many years now, and last year provided almost 15 per cent of government spending.

But Mr. Herman Ruding, the Financial Minister, told parliament recently during the presentation of his latest, swinging budget, that gas revenue this year was set to drop fl 1.7 billion below the total forecast last September. By 1986, he added, the gas income could fall further still, albeit by fl 6 billion on September's official forecasts.

There have been many economic blows to state planning in the last few years. The deterioration in the position of gas remains, however, the single most intractable problem, because the gap it leaves is proving the hardest to fill.

Gas reserves

Sales of Dutch gas have fallen for the simple reason that purchasing countries — principally West Germany, Belgium and Italy — have embarked on major energy saving programmes.

Oil prices have of course fallen sharply, making oil that much more competitive and, in the longer term perhaps, putting pressure on the prices charged for gas. The warm summer of 1982 did not help either, but even if this summer should prove cool and wet, further decline is expected.

In the longer run, Holland's gas reserves (which the Dutch believe will last for the next 55 years at projected rates of extraction) remain a strategic asset of great value.

Indeed, the Dutch are even importing small quantities of gas themselves in order to hold on to their major reserves. Yet the loss of income resulting from the present world recession and conservation measures adopted by clients leaves the government to wonder whether it might not be better to raise revenue from gas now rather than leave reserves in the ground for posterity.

The government has recently reversed previous depletion policy by trying to extend existing contracts as they come up for renewal.

This, it must be admitted, that any country which in time of recession can look forward to a balance of payments surplus of fl 10 billion cannot be doing all that badly. The problem here is that the surplus, as recently as last November, was forecast to reach fl 19 billion.

Lest there be any residual optimism on the payments front Mr. Duisenberg remarked in May that present surpluses were a symptom of weakness rather than of strength, being derived from the depressed level of imports — of investment goods in particular — and not from any vigorous pick-up in exports.

The 1982 surplus was around fl 9.6 billion on revised figures. A strong guilder, Dutch officials say, was more than offset by the stability in competitiveness brought on improved productivity. The latter, aided partly by job losses and partly by genuine improvements in working practices, has continued high.

The guilder, though, is currently undergoing pressure following the recent adjustment of the Eur-

opean Monetary System (EMS).

When the EMS was realigned to assist the rescue of the French franc, the D-mark moved up 5.5 per cent. The guilder, which is normally shifted up or down in parallel, rose by only 3.5 per cent. Ignoring the advice of the central bank, the Finance Ministry appeared to hope that by reviving in this reduced figure, Dutch exporters into Germany would gain a much-needed competitive edge.

The result, in any case, has been that the D-mark and the guilder have both languished at the foot of the EMS table, adding to upwards pressure on interest rates.

Rates in Holland have been creeping upwards since the adjustment, and the government, while decrying the trend, did not help by posting an 8 per cent state loan in April. The loan, incidentally, still raised only fl 1.2 billion — compared with fl 6.5 billion for a bond in January — an indication, analysts say, that investors are hoping for even more in the summer.

The government's response to the fall in gas sales and the increase in the projected budget deficit has been, not surprisingly, to cut back on spending by some fl 5 billion. This approach, though, means that the Dutch welfare state, constructed over two decades with loving care, is being dismantled piecemeal. Benefits overall are being cut by 2 per cent and some payments disappear altogether. A number of hospitals are to be closed and some 8,000 teachers are due to lose their jobs.

This is not what the Dutch population understands by progress, and Mr. Lubbers is finding it tough to sell his ideas to the public. The effective pay cuts are immediately likely to follow. The Liberals, on the other hand, are almost lyrical in their support for cutbacks, and if the Dutch peace movement, as looks likely, gathers momentum this year, the coalition could be placed under the kind of internal strain that it would find increasingly difficult to survive.

For the economy, surviving the 1980s in good shape could be just as difficult. The 1980s, with their optimism and, more importantly, their high revenues from gas, are gone for good. The trick is to rebuild growth on a surer foundation.

Disputes within the governing coalition over the extent of cuts needed to hold down the budget deficit have already been bitter. At one point, Mr. Ed Nijhuis, the Liberal leader, even threatened to withdraw his support from the cabinet if it did not bring in a further fl 2 billion-worth of savings (it did). But such disagreements, enervating though they are, will prove as nothing to the convulsions expected over nuclear weapons.

The Christian Democrats are extremely unhappy that the Netherlands' commitment to accept 48 U.S. cruise missiles — a commitment which arises from the 1979 NATO pact on the need to counter the buildup of Soviet SS-20 missiles.

Mr. Lubbers has repeatedly made clear that he will only honour the bargain if the current arms reduction talks in Geneva are seen manifestly to fail. Even then, according to Mr. Joseph Luns, the Dutch secretary general of NATO, the Netherlands' guarantee is unconvincing.

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— Financial Times news feature

Lebanese border cafe waiter recalls the Israeli invasion

By Phil Davison

Reuter

NAQOURA, Lebanon — Munir, the waiter at the Green Beach Cafe a few hundred metres from the Israeli border, was open for business on Sunday June 6, 1982, but he had no one to serve.

The only passers-by were a few thousand dust-coated Israeli soldiers on top of hundreds of tanks, armoured personnel carriers, trucks and jeeps, who were in the process of invading his country.

"They were covered in dust by none of them stopped for a drink. They seemed to be in a bit of a hurry," Munir said with a grin as he recalled the invasion.

It was a year ago that three columns of Israeli troops rumbled into Lebanon — one up the Mediterranean coast road here, one over the rocky inland hills and the third into the Bekka Valley farther east.

They have remained since, occupying the south, up to the outskirts of Beirut, as well as parts of the Bekka and the central Shouf Mountains, despite months of diplomacy aimed at getting them and other foreign forces out.

Munir said he sat on the terrace

of the cafe, as Mediterranean waves broke on the rocks below, and watched the Israelis roar by. "We were not scared, just a bit surprised," he said. "We knew there might be trouble after the Israeli ambassador in London was shot a day or two before."

Gesturing towards a table where two off-duty French soldiers of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) sipped beer, the waiter smiled and said: "We also sensed something was up when the U.N. boys seemed to be about to disappear."

UNIFIL troops, sent to Lebanon in 1978 to act as a buffer force between Israel and Palestinian forces after a smaller Israeli invasion, are billeted 100 metres from the Green Beach Cafe.

Of the troops from 11 nations in the U.N. force, those closest to the border were mostly French, Dutch and Norwegian.

All were apparently ordered to remain in their barracks as the Israelis approached and the invasion force, whose aim was to drive out Palestinian commandos, met no resistance from the U.N. troops.

Now, a year later, Israeli vehicles still rumble past the rocky

beaches of Naqoura, usually carrying troops to and from frontline positions.

Apart from the odd Lebanese truckload of fruit or vegetables, there is little traffic other than Israeli soldiers.

They come and go in grey coaches, open trucks or often in their own private cars, with Ghafli rifles pointed out the window in readiness for any commando attack.

Such attacks have become more frequent in the past few weeks, between here and Tyre as well as on the coastal road farther north towards Sidon.

Although the Israelis look tougher and more alert than the various Lebanese security forces in the area, they are still vulnerable to small arms or bazookas from passing vehicles or from the direction of the lush roadside orchards.

Munir, the Green Beach Cafe waiter, did not see any fighting. Most of it was inland, around Beaufort Castle, a Palestinian stronghold, or further up the coast around Sidon and south of Beirut.

"It was quiet," Munir said. "Apart from the rumble of the tanks, the distant artillery thumps and the screaming of Israeli jets."

A year later, Naqoura is even quieter. Two off-duty U.N. soldiers skim across the calm Mediterranean on windsurf boards, only a few hundred metres from Israeli waters, and Lebanese villagers swim or fish among the rocks.

With about 700,000 of them already on the road, the alcohol

is clearly here to stay. By 1985 the vehicle makers association hopes their number will rise to 1.5 million, out of a total of 11 million vehicles.

The authorities are pressing ahead with alcohol production. A preliminary target of 6.8 billion litres has been set for the coming 1983-84 crop, up from 5.2 billion litres in 1982-83.

The arguments behind the launching of the programme in 1975 are still valid and Brazil's need to cut the amount of hard-earned dollars it spends on imported oil is greater than ever.

The government is hoping to import to earn \$6 billion trade surplus this year, a key part of its strategy to deal with a foreign debt of about \$90 billion. Oil accounts for almost half the country's imports, which were worth \$19.4 billion in 1982.

Brazil imports about three-fifths of its oil needs of one million barrels per day, producing the rest

by blending it with the petro

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</div

Tennis clean-up campaign begins

Vilas bags heaviest punishment

PARIS (R) — Top tennis administrator Philippe Chatrier, defending tough measures against Argentina's Guillermo Vilas. Thursday promised more action over illegal appearance fees and said other top players could be affected.

Chatrier, head of the Men's International Professional Tennis Council (MPTC), was speaking after the council imposed a one-year suspension and a \$20,000 fine on Vilas Wednesday.

The council found 30-year-old Vilas guilty of accepting an illegal money guarantee to appear in a Grand Prix tournament in Rotterdam in March.

Vilas, ranked fifth in the world, could not be contacted Thursday, but some tennis officials said they believed he would appeal against the sanctions, the heaviest in the history of professional tennis.

Chatrier, who is also head of the International Tennis Federation and the French Tennis Federation, said Thursday: "We have decided to get rid of this practice. It is only the beginning, a warning shot. More players could be suspended and some tournaments could disappear."

Referring to the Vilas case, Chatrier said: "We just needed proof. We got proof and we decided on measures. If there is any question of the top 10 players staging a revolt, it would be a shame for them because it would be the end of their careers."

French number one Yannick Noah, who won the French Open last Sunday, was fined \$20,000 and suspended for 42 days for missing a Nations Cup match in Dusseldorf, West Germany. Last month,

It means he will not play in France's Davis Cup quarter-final against Paraguay in Marseilles next month but will be able to contest the U.S. Open in August.

One tennis official, who asked

not to be named, said he understood Vilas would probably appeal against the decision because he had maintained his innocence all along.

Patrice Hagalauer, French Tennis Federation coach, said of the affair: "It could effectively be the end of Vilas' career. It is right that the international federation should search for some kind of order, but making an example was wrong. The sanctions are too harsh."

An appeal by Vilas, a former winner of the U.S., French and Australian Open Championships, would be reviewed by a special tribunal with one representative chosen by him, one by the MPTC and one joint selection.

Vilas, a powerful lefthander whose baseline top-spin game has made him one of the best clay court players, is a soft-spoken man who has published two volumes of

poetry. He has apartments in Monte Carlo and Paris, and his name has been romantically linked with Princess Caroline of Monaco in recent months by French magazines.

Former Romanian Davis Cup player Ion Tiriac acts as his coach and manager.

If Vilas does appeal against the decision there will be a 30-day period of grace during which he would be able to play Wimbledon and Argentina's Davis Cup tie against Italy in Rome next month.

Chatrier did not say how much Vilas was alleged to have been paid when he appeared in Rotterdam in March as a substitute for U.S. star Jimmy Connors, who dropped out for personal reasons.

But tennis experts here said some top players had accepted sums of up to \$100,000 as guarantees to appear in tournaments.

Zico quits Brazilian soccer, moves to Italy

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Zico is quitting Brazilian soccer to play for Italian first division club Udinese next season.

The 30-year-old idol of Flamengo told the Rio club Thursday morning Udinese's offer of \$4 million over two years was irresistible.

Flamengo had waged a week-long battle to match the Italians' bid but Zico put an end to all the speculation when he said Thursday: "It's difficult to say goodbye."

"The message I leave behind is that I've always given everything to Brazilian football, trying always for victory. We'll never forget Zico."

Zico, one of the world's greatest ever footballers, will travel to Udine in northern Italy next week.

with his wife Sandra to choose a house and make arrangements.

His departure will be a huge loss to both Flamengo and Brazilian football in general.

Zico is the dream-idol of a generation of small boys much in the way their fathers worshipped the great Pele.

Zico joined Flamengo, which is based in a smart Rio suburb, at the age of 14 and has scored more than 630 first-team goals.

His dazzling dribbling skills, radar-guided free kicks and the uncanny perfection of his passes are undoubtedly the main reasons for Flamengo's popularity, and success.

They are the only club which can fill a stadium anywhere in this country, the grandstands crowded with small boys wearing replicas of the team's red-and-black striped shirt, with Zico's number 10 on the back.

He is also a model professional. First to arrive at training and among the last to leave. Courteous and patient with the swarms of journalists who dog his every footstep, he always has time to sign autographs and pose for snapshots with adoring fans.

His last appearance for Flamengo was in the second-leg of the national championship final against Santos on May 29.

More than 170,000 people turned the mighty Maracana stadium into a sea of red-and-black as the reigning champions overturned a 2-1 deficit from the first leg, in an electric atmosphere.

Zico turned in another superb performance, scored the first goal

and laying on the second as Flamengo ran out 3-0 winners.

He has no liking for nightclubs or the jet-set life and is usually pictured at home with his wife and their two small sons.

In recent years Flamengo have won the national championship three times, in 1980, 1982 and 1983, and the Rio state championship four times. In 1981 they won the Libertadores Cup, and then thrashed European Champions Liverpool to win the World Club Championship.

News of the Udinese bid burst like a thunderclap on the Flamengo supporters on June 1, as they were still celebrating their latest championship triumph three days earlier.

But Roberts, 31, three times World 500cc Champion, returned to top form in the Austrian Grand Prix at Salzburg last month, trimming Spencer's lead in the overall standings to a mere six points.

Such is their domination this season that third placed Randy Mamola, who is also from the U.S., is 29 points adrift of Spencer.

But Mamola could be a serious threat to the big two. In unofficial

Spencer, Roberts set to dominate Yugoslav race

RUDEKA, Yugoslavia (R) — Americans Freddie Spencer and Kenny Roberts will renew their two-man World Championship battle in the Yugoslav 500cc motorcycle Grand Prix on Sunday.

Spencer has lived up to his nickname of "Fast Freddie" in his second year on the circuit, winning four of the six Grands Prix staged so far.

But Roberts, 31, three times World 500cc Champion, returned to top form in the Austrian Grand Prix at Salzburg last month, trimming Spencer's lead in the overall standings to a mere six points.

Reigning World Champion Angel Nieto of Spain is hot favorite to win the 125cc event.

He leads the standings with 60 points, followed by his Garelli team-mate Eugenio Lazzarini of Italy on 48 points. Italy's Piero Paolo Bianchi is third on 30 points and his compatriot Maurizio Vitali fourth on 29 points.

Belmont Stakes race wide open

NEW YORK (R) — Slew-O'Gold is favourite to sprint clear of a weak field and land the Belmont Stakes horse race here Saturday, the third and final leg of America's Triple Crown.

The son of 1977 Triple Crown winner Seattle Slew, due to be ridden by Angel Cordero Jr., emerged as 2-1 favourite for the 115th running of the mile-and-a-half race Friday.

But with Kentucky Derby winner Sunny's Halo and Desert Wine, second in the Derby and the Preakness Stakes, both missing, many feel the field is badly understrength and the race wide open.

The field of 15 is the largest ever in the race, topping the former best of 14 set in 1875.

And with such a large number of challengers, and no obvious champions in sight, experts feel the event—the longest of the Triple Crown races—could be snatched by an unfancied outsider.

One of the fancied contenders is Caveat, a horse with good stamina and ranked second favourite at 5-2. He has been placed in 10 of his 15 outings but won only twice. Caveat is followed in the betting by High Honors at 6-1 along with Preakness winner Deputed Testimony.

Connors cruises to last 4 in London grass tournament

LONDON (R) — American top seed Jimmy Connors sailed comfortably into the semifinals of the London Grass Court Tennis Championship by beating compatriot Steve Denton 6-2, 6-4 at the Queen's Club here Friday.

Connors took just 61 minutes to dispose of Denton in a good-humoured quarter-final clash.

But the Dutch also had their chances and Nigerian keeper Wilfred Agbonavbare saved superbly from shots and headers on about a dozen occasions.

The Leaguers have now been completed and the competition moves to the knock-out stage on Saturday when Scotland meet Poland in the capital and South Korea play Uruguay in Monterrey.

The Russians hit back with well-constructed attacks and the game was not settled beyond doubt until eight minutes to go, when Geovani Silva shot home from 10 metres after a quick, impulsive move with Mauricio

days time, broke Denton's serve three times in the match while his own service was never threatened.

Cash struggled against Curren's explosive power and received a warning when he cracked his racket throwing it on the ground at the end of the first set. Curren, the sixth seed, also received a warning for abusing an official who called a foul fault against him during the second set.

Connors would not be drawn on the one year suspension imposed on Argentine Guillermo Vilas this week. But he said: "It's bad for him, bad for the tournaments and bad for the game to put someone with his record and stature out of the game for so long. I'll have a lot to say on it in a month's time."

Outsiders Zimbabwe, India stun Australia and Windies

LONDON (R) — World Cup 1000-1 shots Zimbabwe and outsiders India meet in a clash of the giant-killers Saturday after launching third one-day tournament with stunning victories.

India sent holders West Indies crashing to their first-ever cup defeat in Manchester Friday following Zimbabwe's triumph over Australia by 13 runs in Nottingham Thursday.

West Indies go to Leeds for Saturday's other Group 'B' game with Australia whose captain Kim Hughes said after their downfall against Zimbabwe: "We were totally outplayed."

Holds England, buoyed by an emphatic 106-run victory over New Zealand in their opening Group 'A' match Thursday, take on Sri Lanka at Taunton on Saturday.

Sri Lanka lost by 50 runs Thursday despite punishing Pakistan's limited attack for 288 for nine — the record cup score by a side bat-

Captain Duncan Fletcher, whose all-round performance of 69 not out and four for 42 inspired the victory, said: "I still can't believe we've actually beaten Australia."

"But it shows what you can achieve when a good bunch of players all work together, and we never panicked even when things were going a bit wrong."

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THE BRAZILIAN FAIR

In view of the huge number of visitors to the Brazilian fair for construction materials and souvenirs, currently taking place at the Mu'ab Hall in the Regency Palace Hotel, it has been decided to extend the duration of the exhibition until 10.00 p.m. Monday.

Notice: The fair has been organised by Ussama-Part. E Com. Ext. LTDA.

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One of Jordan's leading financial institutions is seeking an English speaking secretary with perhaps a little knowledge of the Arabic language to work for the Director of Marketing.

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KHALIFEN

Grumman will help build new Israeli jet fighter

NEW YORK (Agencies) — Grumman Aerospace Corp., a unit of Grumman Corp., said it won a multimillion-dollar contract to build wing and vertical tail assemblies for Israel aircraft industries' new Levi fighter, the Wall Street Journal has reported.

Grumman will develop the parts for the single-seat, single-engine aircraft from light-weight composite graphite-epoxy materials. The company will then produce a limited number of parts for the Levi's first production run, the newspaper said.

Current plans call for production of 300 aircraft with initial delivery in 1990, Grumman said.

Grumman plans to begin producing the wing and tail assemblies in the U.S., but has proposed making them in Israel eventually, a company spokesman said.

Terms of the contract are still being negotiated and the value of the transaction wasn't disclosed.

Grumman Corp. is an aerospace company with extensive military contracts.

UAE's foreign assets rise despite oil price fall

ABU DHABI (R) — The United Arab Emirates' (UAE) foreign assets continued to grow in the first quarter of this year despite the drop in oil revenues resulting from the world crude oil glut, official figures released Thursday showed.

The Central Bank's quarterly statistical survey showed the seven-emirate federation's total net foreign assets rose to 23.2 billion dirhams (\$6.28 billion) at the end of March from 2.21 billion (\$6.0 billion) at end-1982 and 15.2 billion (\$4.1 billion) at the end of March 1982.

But the central bank's share of the total dipped to 11.3 billion dirhams (\$3.1 billion) and end-March from 12.3 billion (\$3.3 billion) three months earlier, compared with 10.8 billion dirhams (\$2.9 billion) in March 1982.

Reflecting an apparent stagnation of business activity, the figures showed net domestic credit totalled 28.3 billion dirhams (\$7.6 billion) at end-March, down from 28.4 billion (\$7.7 billion) at end-December and compared with 27.8 billion dirhams (\$7.5 billion) at end-March 1982.

The UAE's M-2 money supply, comprising cash in circulation and time deposits with banks, rose to 25.8 billion dirhams (\$7.0 billion) at the end of the first quarter from 24.0 billion (\$6.5 billion) at end-1982 and 20.3 billion dirhams (\$5.5 billion) a year earlier.

Pakistan announces rise in GDP, fall in inflation

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan's military government Thursday announced an estimated 5.8 per cent rise in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) during the past financial year and a sharp fall in inflation.

A government economic survey of the financial year ending on June 30 said the most pleasing performance came in agriculture, which showed a 4.8 per cent growth.

On inflation, the survey said the consumer price index rose by five per cent during the 10 month period ending April 30 compared with a 12 per cent rise the previous year.

The wholesale price index rose by 4.6 per cent in the same period compared with 10.3 per cent.

"When future economic surveys are written we hope that 1982-83 will be remembered as the year in which, after a decade of inflation, price stability was achieved," the survey said.

The survey said there was a 28.1 per cent rise in workers' remittances, mainly from the Middle East, to \$2.9 billion.

The current account deficit in balance of payments fell by nearly 50 per cent to \$809 million.

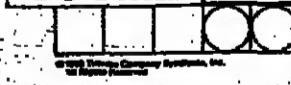
The survey said Pakistan was no longer among the world's poorest nations. It estimated an average Pakistani family earned 2,332 rupees (\$180) a month which was better than nearly 50 per cent of the world's population.



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

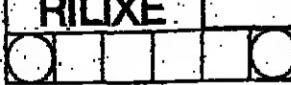
SOOME



TALFOA



RILXE



Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: ERASE HAIRY AVOWAL SHADOW
Answer: Why she criticized him for starting off on the wrong foot—it was HER'S

USSR said boosting oil exports to West

LONDON (R) — The Soviet Union, faced with a strong need for hard cash, has sharply stepped up exports of oil to Western Europe during the early months of this year, a specialist shipping magazine reported Thursday.

The monthly Lloyds Shipping Economist said tanked shipments from Soviet ports on the Baltic and Black Sea were 15 per cent higher in the first quarter of 1983 than in the same period last year.

The magazine said this continued a trend started in 1982 when Moscow boosted exports by almost a quarter after members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) bowed to a market surplus and agreed to cut both prices and output.

The Soviet Union needs the hard currency earned by oil exports to buy modern Western technology with which to boost its weak industrial performance.

However, Algeria's oil minister said in a newspaper interview published in Paris Thursday that the Soviet Union told him during two days of official talks earlier this week that it did not want to compete with OPEC oil.

The magazine said that according to information from ship movements the chief destinations for the Soviet oil this year are Italy, The Netherlands and Finland.

It added the deliveries took place at a time when Soviet shipments traditionally fall.

In order to be able to export more, Moscow has cut concessionary sales to its allies in the Eastern bloc and at home has introduced conservation measures.

The magazine said that according to information from ship movements the chief destinations for the Soviet oil this year are Italy, The Netherlands and Finland.

Mr. Belkacem Nabi, who met senior Soviet officials in Moscow, said he believed that the Soviet Union was willing to formalise its contacts with OPEC and that he would probably be returning to Moscow in September for further talks.

OPEC officials calculate that Soviet oil deliveries to the West have increased recently and now stand at between 1.4 and 1.6 million barrels per day (b/d).

Lloyd's Shipping Economist said the result had been taken into account during the recent rise of sterling and the pound eased Friday against European currencies and the Japanese yen on Far Eastern and European markets.

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Sterling has risen strongly alongside the dollar in recent weeks, slipped against other major currencies.

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In London, the pound was down against the mark at 4.0287 in early trading after closing Thursday at 4.0585. It was quoted at \$1.5805 at mid-morning after closing Thursday night at \$1.5790, still below Thursday night's New York close of \$1.5925.

In Frankfurt, the pound opened at 4.038 German marks, sharply down from its 4.049 close Thursday night.

In Paris, it opened at 12.13 francs compared with 12.18 francs at the close Thursday.

Dealers, however, described the pound as stabilising in Europe after profit-taking had pulled it sharply downwards during the day in Far Eastern markets.

In Hong Kong, the pound steadied at \$1.5780 after a low of \$1.5765 early in the day.

U.K. stock market hits new peak

LONDON (R) — The British stock market, after an initial lacklustre reaction to the Conservative Party's sweeping general election victory, rallied Friday to a record high.

Dealers said an early drop from Thursday's record close of 716.4 points on the Financial Times index of 30 leading shares showed that the government landslide had been widely expected.

They added that the outcome clearly underpinned the market, which has risen more than 100 points this year, and the index edged back upwards to 718.3 in the early afternoon led by support for government bonds.

Earlier, dealers had said the market's performance would very much depend on overseas reaction to the election and expected more movement when U.S. markets open later.

Sterling, which has risen strongly alongside the dollar in recent weeks, slipped against other major currencies.

Dealers said the result had been taken into account during the recent rise of sterling and the pound eased Friday against European currencies and the Japanese yen on Far Eastern and European markets.

In London, the pound was down against the mark at 4.0287 in early trading after closing Thursday at 4.0585. It was quoted at \$1.5805 at mid-morning after closing Thursday night at \$1.5790, still below Thursday night's New York close of \$1.5925.

In Frankfurt, the pound opened at 4.038 German marks, sharply down from its 4.049 close Thursday night.

In Paris, it opened at 12.13 francs compared with 12.18 francs at the close Thursday.

Dealers, however, described the pound as stabilising in Europe after profit-taking had pulled it sharply downwards during the day in Far Eastern markets.

In Hong Kong, the pound steadied at \$1.5780 after a low of \$1.5765 early in the day.

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 1983

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A good day to spend planning various outlets of a broad and comprehensive nature. Afterwards, go shopping and do errands which should claim some of your time and attention.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Converse with allies about new enterprises. Pay calls on key persons and get right results. Contact friends this evening.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Study work ahead and figure out where co-workers can fit in best for efficiency and harmony. Be clever.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Plan sports activities to help you have a fine, trim figure. A friend or two around can make the day more enjoyable.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Talk over with kin how to make the future more secure. Later, spend time at some form of recreation to relieve tension.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Show that you are willing to cooperate more in the future. Get together with friends in the afternoon. Drive carefully.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Get in touch with powerful people who are difficult to reach during the week. Get busy on outside tasks awaiting your attention.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Try a new task where personal goals are concerned; a current project could spell success or failure. Be careful.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Make secret plans to produce fine results in your career. Solve problems wisely. Go out and enjoy yourself tonight.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Give a helping hand to those who have done you favors in the past. Express your gratitude through generosity.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Look to experts for ideas so you can produce more work in the days ahead. Get busy with the paint brush and bucket.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You are highly inspired today. Contact people who can help you. Go to see them, but take care while driving.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Improve your work situation and plan for the future. Find a way to improve your relationship with your loved one.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will view situations from the broadest angles. Plan for an education that will equip your progeny for a big job and much success. Stress study in foreign languages. Spectator sports will be of much interest.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

Money supply trend in Kuwait still distorted

KUWAIT (R) — Latest figures for Kuwaiti money supply aggregates show continued distortion to domestic liquidity resulting from last year's stock market crash.

Central bank figures show the narrowly-defined M-1 money supply, which comprises cash in circulation and sight deposits at banks, rose 0.6 per cent in April compared with March to 1.25 billion dinars (\$4.31 billion), but was 15.8 per cent below the year earlier level.

The M-2 aggregate, which includes private time deposits, fell 1.1 per cent from March to 2.92 billion dinars (\$3.45 billion), and was 0.7 per cent below a year earlier.

Broadly defined M-3, which takes in government deposits, was 0.6 per cent below March at 5.25 billion dinars (\$18.10 billion), but 3.6 per cent up from April last year.

Financial analysts noted money holdings rose sharply up to the middle of 1982 as stock market investors held funds ready to back investment in booming local stock markets.

The trend was reversed as prices crashed during the final quarter of the year.

THE Daily Crossword by James R. Burns

| ACROSS | 26 | 27 | 55 | 56 | 57 | 58 | 59 | 60 | 61 | 62 | 63 | 64 | 65 | 66 | 67 | 68 | 69 | 70 | 71 | 72 | 73 | 74 | 75 | 76 | 77 | 78 | 79 | 80 | 81 | 82 | 83 | 84 | 85 | 86 | 87 | 88 | 89 | 90 | 91 | 92 | 93 | 94 | 95 | 96 | 97 | 98 | 99 | 100 | 101 | 102 | 103 | 104 | 105 | 106 | 107 | 108 | 109 | 110 | 111 | 112 | 113 | 114 | 115 | 116 | 117 | 118 | 119 | 120 | 121 | 122 | 123 | 124 | 125 | 126 | 127 | 128 | 129 | 130 | 131 | 132 | 133 | 134 | 135 | 136 | 137 | 138 | 139 | 140 | 141 | 142 | 143 | 144 | 145 | 146 | 147 | 148 | 149 | 150 | 151 | 152 | 153 | 154 | 155 | 156 | 157 | 158 | 159 | 160 | 161 | 162 | 163 | 164 | 165 | 166 | 167 | 168 | 169 | 170 | 171 | 172 | 173 | 174 | 175 | 176 | 177 | 178 | 179 | 180 | 181 | 182 | 183 | 184 | 185 | 186 | 187 | 188 | 189 | 190 | 191 | 192 | 193 | 194 | 195 | 196 | 197 | 198 | 199 | 200 | 201 | 202 | 203 | 204 | 205 | 206 | 207 | 208 | 209 | 210 | 211 | 212 | 213 | 214 | 215 | 216 | 217 | 218 | 219 | 220 | 221 | 222 | 223 | 224 | 225 | 226 | 227 | 228 | 229 | 230 | 231 | 232 | 233 | 234 | 235 | 236 | 237 | 238 | 239 | 240 | 241 | 242 | 243 | 244 | 245 | 246 | 247 |
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WORLD

Thatcher gets her majority

LONDON (R) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was swept back to power and the Labour Party shattered Friday in a landslide election the British leader called historic.

The poll for the 650 seats in the House of Commons handed Mrs. Thatcher a near-complete triumph and the huge overall majority she had appealed for to press forward with her drive to "roll back the frontiers of socialism."

Crestfallen Labour leaders warned her victory would intensify unemployment and social strife in Britain and Labour Party leader Michael Foot said it was a tragedy for the nation.

The Labour Party, riven by internal policy disputes, slumped to its worst election showing since 1918, polling only 29 percent of the vote and Mr. Foot, 69, hinted that he would stand down.

With only 78 results due to trickle in, a computer prediction gave the Conservatives a 146-seat majority over all other parties, equalling the post-war Labour landslide of 1945.

A predicted main party line-up was: Conservatives 348 seats, Labour 204, Liberal-Social Democratic Alliance 21, others 22.

Mrs. Thatcher, smiling amid the echoing cheers of jubilant party supporters, said she accepted the new five-year mandate "with a very great sense of responsibility and humility."

The 57-year-old grocer's daughter, who became Britain's leader and Europe's first woman prime minister in 1979, promises five more years of right-wing government with strong personal leadership and a determination to halt Britain's economic slide.

Her popularity soared last year when she dispatched a 100-ship fleet that recaptured the Falkland Islands from Argentina.

Mrs. Thatcher will probably name her new cabinet this week.

kend sources close to the prime minister said, and speculation mounted that she will replace Foreign Secretary Francis Pym.

Mrs. Thatcher has long been expected to purge what she calls "wets" whose weak support for hardline policies she regrets.

Labour failed to galvanise national support on the issue of Britain's three million unemployed, for which opinion polls indicate voters mainly blame the world recession, and Mr. Foot said: "We have now got to sit down and see how best we can rebuild the party."

Labour former minister Gerald Kaufman, re-elected in his seat in the industrial north, warned: "Millions in the north of England who hate this government and detest this prime minister was not acceptable to voters."

With all but 78 results declared, 11.5 million people had voted Conservative, 7.9 million Labour and 6.9 million for the fledgling centrist Alliance.

British soldier killed

BELFAST (R) — A British soldier was killed in a bomb blast in west Belfast Friday morning only minutes before vote counting began in Thursday's general election.

The soldier was in a joint police-army patrol in a predominantly Catholic part of the city when the bomb exploded behind a lamp post.

During the night a policeman escaped injury when he noticed a bomb fixed to his car as he was coming off duty. An army disposal team was called and the bomb went off soon afterwards, causing some damage to surrounding property.

More than 130 people were arrested Thursday for personation, or trying to vote more than once.

U.K. election called most lopsided in 20th century

LONDON (R) — Britain's winner-takes-all voting system came under the spotlight Friday after the election gave the centrist Alliance a quarter of the votes but only three per cent of parliamentary seats.

In the most lopsided election result this century, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservatives polled 42 percent of the vote but took some 395 seats in the 650-seat House of Commons, a 140-seat overall majority.

The Alliance with 25 percent of votes like getting only 22 seats. Even the Labour Party got over 200 seats although it polled 29 percent, only four points more than the Alliance.

Leaders of the fledgling two-

party grouping of the Liberals and Social Democratic Party (SDP) formed in 1981 pledged to fight for a system of proportional representation.

Social Democratic leader Roy Jenkins, who was re-elected in his Glasgow seat, said the voting system will be seen as a scandal".

Liberal Party leader David Steel, who also kept his seat in Scotland, said: "The country has been cheated of the result they clearly wanted."

A quarter of the people voted for the Alliance but they are not going to have a quarter of Parliament to represent them."

But Mrs. Thatcher has already set her face against any reform of the present centuries-old system.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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DEAR MR. GOREN

Q. — From time to time, you mention "hand revaluation" in your column. I understand the principle, but I am not sure just how much to revalue the hand and whether to apply the same scale to opener's hand as to responder's. Your help would be appreciated. —G. Baker, New Haven, Conn.

This question has been awarded the weekly prize! A. — Even though you understand the principle of revaluation, let me explain it briefly for other readers. When a fit is known to exist, hands increase in value. For opener, a fit becomes established when responder raises his suit, or introduces a new suit for which responder has good support. For responder, it is when responder raises his suit or bids a suit for which responder has four-card support for good three-card support.

The method of revaluation differs somewhat. When a player revalues his hand after his suit has been raised, he adds points for length. For a fifth card in the trump suit he adds 1 point; for the sixth and each extra trump he adds 2 points. For a fourth and each extra card in a side suit he adds 1 point. To illustrate how this works, let's take a hand from one of this week's columns:

♦A106542 ♦95 ♦AK ♦A103 For purposes of opening the bidding, this hand is

worth 17 points — 15 HCP and 2 for distribution. If partner raises spades, you must revalue your hand. You add 3 points for the length in spades — 1 for the fifth and 2 for the sixth spade. In effect, this reflects the change in the losers in the spade suit.

What started out as a suit with two or three losers is now probably a suit with no more than one loser.

When raising partner's suit, the method of revaluation is different, but the logic is the same. Suppose you hold the following hand:

♦Q954 ♦7 ♦A953 ♦752

Partner opens the bidding with one club. Your hand is worth 9 points — 7 in high cards and 2 for the singleton. The actual worth of that singleton is hard to assess for the moment — if partner's second suit is hearts, even 2 points might prove to be too high, because the hand may be played in no trump where you have no distributional values. But if partner opens one spade, your hand improves. Your heart shortness should enable partner to score two or three ruffs in your hand. You revalue your hand as follows:

Doubleton — count 1 point (no change)

Singleton — count 3 points (add 1 point)

Void — count 5 points (add 2 points)

In support of spades, your hand now counts 10 points instead of 9. The same principle of revaluation applies as soon as one player has a fit for his partner's suit, regardless of whether it is opener or responder.

Many political professionals despise these "straw polls," so

Labour licks wounds

LONDON (R) — Recriminations over the opposition Labour Party's drubbing at the hands of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservatives began even before the result of the British general election was declared early Friday.

Deputy leader Denis Healey, who dominated the party's campaign but sometimes blundered with mislaid attacks on Mrs. Thatcher's imperious image, blamed "Labour renegades" who quit to form the Social Democratic Party (SDP).

James Callaghan, Labour prime minister until he was ousted by Thatcher in the 1979 election, said the party's policy of unilateral nuclear disarmament was not acceptable to voters.

As demoralised Labour leaders counted the toll of their colleagues voted out of Parliament in the party's most devastating defeat in half a century, they tried to put a brave face on their humiliation.

The fight to win the next election starts immediately," declared party leader Michael Foot, adding that he would be there "in some capacity."

The white-haired, one-time firebrand orator will be 70 next month. Although his stamina during the month-long election campaign surprised many commentators, analysts said the party was unlikely to approach the next election with him at the helm.

Even before the first of the 650 individual parliamentary results was declared last night, bookmakers had quoted odds on Foot's likely successor.

Labour's immediate task is reconstruction out of the ruins of Mrs. Thatcher's victory.

And two of the four founders of the new Social Democratic Party (SDP) lost their seats in Parliament Friday as the party's fortunes slumped in Britain's general

election.

Shirley Williams and William Rodgers, both ex-Labour Party cabinet ministers who defected to form the SDP in 1980, fell to a Conservative surge.

But the other SDP leaders, Roy Jenkins and David Owen — also former Labour ministers — kept their seats in Parliament.

Some famous Labour names also appeared headed for defeat. Former party chairwoman Joan Lestor, veteran fighter for women's rights, was beaten by the Conservatives.

Former Labour Prime Minister James Callaghan held his seat in Wales and as longest-serving Member of Parliament will return there as "father of the house."

The biggest blow to the Labour Party's radical left was defeat for Tony Benn, its parliamentary leader, who lost his seat to a Conservative novice in Bristol, southwest England.

Mr. Benn had represented south Bristol for 33 years. When boundary changes this year put him in a trickier area of the city, he refused offers of a safe Labour seat elsewhere.

"Nothing but defeat would have induced me to leave Bristol," he said after the result was announced early Friday morning.

The election turned into a double-barrel defeat for Mr. Benn's family when his son Hilary, in the same radical mould as his father, was beaten in suburban London in his first run for Parliament.

Another big name to fall was Labour's former Health Minister David Ennals.

But Mr. Foot was re-elected from his seat in Wales with an overwhelming majority of 23,625 — more than double that of Mrs. Thatcher.

But it was only a fleeting triumph in a night of disaster for his party.

Conservative leaders all over happy about election

LONDON (R) — Conservative leaders throughout the world welcomed British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's return to power Friday but European socialists said the Labour Party had only itself to blame for the scale of its election defeat.

The European Community was more cautious in its welcome for the triumphant British leader, expressing relief that there was now no chance of Britain pulling out of 10-nation grouping but looking forward with some trepidation to even more internationalisation over her demands for a budget rebate.

Financial markets shrugged off Mrs. Thatcher's landslide victory as nothing more than they had expected and the pound slipped on European exchanges.

The Soviet news agency TASS contented itself with quoting opposition labour leader Michael Foot as saying the election result was a tragedy for Britain.

It was clear this echoed Kremlin feeling that the prospect of five more years of Mrs. Thatcher was certainly a tragedy for Moscow.

In Japan, Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone said he accorded "high praise to Mrs. Thatcher's strenuous efforts," adding that the British people had not been satisfied with socialism.

Official sources in Washington said President Reagan would like to congratulate her before issuing a statement and officials said privately that the British result added to the recent victory in West Germany of Conservative Chancellor Helmut Kohl meant the administration now felt assured of strong support in Europe for its security and defence policies.

Mr. Kohl's Christian Democrats rejoiced Friday and spo-

keisman Wolter von Tiesenhausen told Reuters: "It's a massive confirmation for Thatcher and a victory for the European Community and for NATO".

NATO officials at a meeting of foreign ministers in Paris said Mrs. Thatcher's win would help buttress the alliance at a critical time.

Diplomats said it would be another signal to Moscow that the West was determined to go ahead with deployment of 572 U.S. missiles.

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Only Glenn can afford to ignore U.S. 'straw polls'

WASHINGTON (R) — Just for fun, delegates to the Wisconsin Democratic Party convention in Milwaukee will vote Saturday their preference among candidates seeking nomination for next year's presidential election in what has become an increasingly controversial ritual in United States politics.

Candidates are wary of them, too. Pundits and leaders writers call them superficial distractions that add to the multimillion dollar cost and the ever-expanding length of presidential campaign preparations.

But almost nobody in politics ignores them.

Candidates covet the support of the grass-roots party regulars who attend the conventions and vote in the polls. They are a prime source of campaign money and the votes that will decide the winners in next year's primary elections.

Many political professionals despise these "straw polls," so

named to underscore their informal and non-binding nature.

Democratic Party chairman Charles Manatt has called them totally irrelevant and urged, without much success, that they be banned.

Candidates are wary of them, too. Pundits and leaders writers call them superficial distractions that add to the multimillion dollar cost and the ever-expanding length of presidential campaign preparations.

We are convinced that the fixed cylinder wind boat has important and immediate commercial applications," he added. "It would be fairly simple to convert any ship to mixed propulsion by equipping it with one or more cylinders."

After Thursday's voyage in perfect conditions, Cousteau said he hoped to cross the Atlantic with the catamaran in October if the vessel performed as well in bad weather.

Hanging of 3 rebels produces fresh protests in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South Africa faced fresh protests Friday over the hanging of three black nationalist guerrillas after rejecting national and international appeals for clemency.

The three members of the banned African National Congress (ANC), convicted of high treason and murder, were hanged at dawn Thursday at Pretoria Central Prison after a last-minute court appeal failed.

Police arrested 23 people when about 400 students and workers marched through the streets of Durban later in the day carrying ANC banners and protesting against the executions.

About 200 people of all races attended an all-night vigil in a Durban church hall. Police spr-

ayed teargas in the hall after they started singing revolutionary songs, according to eyewitnesses.

Police were also called to the University of Zululand in northern Natal where about 700 black students demonstrated against the hangings.

A police van was burnt and damage worth 50,000 rand (\$46,000) was done to university property before the crowd dispersed. But a police spokesman said no arrests had been made.

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Bishop Desmond Tutu, secretary-general of the South African Council of churches, said South Africa's white rulers should reform the apartheid (racial segregation) system before conflict became inevitable.

He said he supported the aims of the dead men but not their methods and told a memorial service Thursday "South Africa is going to be free through bloodshed and violence or through negotiations."

The acting chief magistrate of Johannesburg Thursday night banned a protest meeting called by the "save the six" committee.

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